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The Fat and the Lean :

Feeding The Hungry World

EXTREME differences still prevail in food supplies for humans and there appears to be no tendency toward a reduction of the gap between the rich and the poor countries according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Overnutrition in contrast to widespread under and malnutrition is pin-pointed in recent FAO Monthly Bulletins of Agricultural Economics and Statistics.

The populations of the 45 countries Most Seriously Affected (MSA) by the economic set back of recent years received in 1972–74 only about 2,000 calories per person per day, much less than the average of almost 3,400 for the developed regions of the world, including the USSR and Eastern Europe.

Differences in the composition of food supplies were even more pronounced, according to FAO statistics. With 1100 calories of animal origin, the population of the developed regions enjoyed almost 9 times as much animal products per person in 1972-74 as people living in MSA countries. Also the people of MSA countries were supplied with only 116 calories of fats and oils daily in 1972-74 and thus consumed only a fourth of the quantity of fats and oils (467 calories) which the average person in the developed regions obtained in the same period. The world food supply situation has not improved since 1970, the base year used in preparing the estimates for the UN World Food Conference back in 1974. At that time, the average food supply per person in the developing countries was estimated at 2,200 calories. Among the 162 countries for which figures were recently collected, 128 are developing ones, 20 of which registered less than a total of 2,000 calories per head per day in 1972-74, whereas 33 countries, mainly developed, enjoyed more than 3,000 calories per head per day.

Seventeen countries, not all of which were among those with the most meagre food rations (i.e. below 2,500 calories) had in 1972-74, at a national average, less than 100 calories of animal origin per day and person. In contrast, 22 countries with more than 1 000 of their daily calorie supplies coming from animal products were practically all in the "above 3,000" total calories bracket.

The distribution of countries according to the fat and oils content of their average diet is similar. The 38 countries with less than 100 daily calories from fat 1972-74 could generally be found in the lower group of total food supplies whereas the 26 countries where the daily diet contained more than 400 calories of fat belonged to the group above 2,500 total calories supplied.

Chad, Mali and Upper Volta had the lowest food supplies, with less than 1,800 calories per person per day; Bolivia, El Salvador, the Maldives, Mauritania, Niger, and Zaire were hardly better off with 1800 to 1900 calories. Altogether, 20 countries had fewer than 2,000 calories most of them in Africa or South and Southeast Asia.

At the other extreme, 33 countries counted food supplies exceeding 3,000 calories. Eight were in the top group above 3,500 calories: Belgium-Luxembourg, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, New Zealand, Switzerland, and the United States.

These figures, which represent only national averages, should be judged in the light of local disparities in food supply and consumption in different regions and among population groups within the countries. For instance, even the low average figures for some of the poorest countries mean, in fact, that the poorer part of the population in these countries received even less—sometimes much less—food per

(Contd. on page 7)

Is This Frittering Away Of Resources ?

ACCUSING the Congress governments of "frittering away" of over Rs. 400 crores since January this year, Mr. H. M. Patel, Union Finance Minister gave the following figures (in crores of rupees) in the Lok Sabha : Bihar 78.71; U. P. 73.68; M. P. 51.25; W. Bengal 49.82; Punjab 24.96; Rajasthan 22.45; Orissa 14.73; Haryana 8.49 and Himachal Pradesh 2.41.

Mr. Patel was good enough to mention the "remarkable performance" of the state governments in respect of resource mobilisation. As against the target of Rs. 2 550 crores set for the states in the draft fifth plan, the measures taken by the states were estimated to yield Rs. 5,498 crores during the five year period (more than double the target.)

And how did these Congress governments fritter away the resources ?

Mr. Patel gave a long list of concessions announced by these governments since January last.

Bihar abolished surcharge on land rents from April 1, besides providing nine items of relief to its employees consisting of cash, medical allowances, grant of DA, merger of all Ministerial cadres of the Secretariat, payment of wages for the period of absence from March 1 to April 14, 1975, increase in the promotion prospects for health services, increase in the pay scale of choukidars and dafadars, etc. Apart from this, the former State Government gave remission to taccavi loans up to Rs. 500 granted before April 1972 to persons holding upto one acre, appointed 4,000 Urdu teachers and doubled the number of students receiving scholarship.

There were sixteen other decisions taken by the same government, the financial implications of which are yet to be reported. These include increases in the daily and travelling allowances of home guards, merger of pay scale of hand writing and finger print experts of the CID, take over of private medical colleges, implementation of the UGC scale from January 1, 1973 to College teachers, etc.

In the case of U. P., there was a change in the irrigation rates, reduction in power rates for private tubewells, payments of additional DA instalments, upward revision of rates of allowances for employees posted in hill areas, etc.

The concessions offered by the other State Governments follow a similar pattern. Rajasthan reinstated compulsorily retaired employees and gave sizeable ad hoc benefits and upward revision of salaries to the employees of the State Electricity Board, besides giving concessions to users of tractors, trolley, etc. The Electricity Board also revised downward the security deposite payable by agriculturists.

Is the Janata Government against these concessions ?

THUS SPAKE THE MAHATMA

A man of few words will rarely be thoughtless in his speech ; he will measure every word Silence is a great help to a seeker after truth like myself.

ASOKA SCENTED BETELNUT POWDER

Free India

SUNDAY July 31, 1977

NEW PRESIDENT

Higher and higher—that has been the political life of Neelam Sanjeeva Reddi. He has now reached the highest. He has become the President of India in a unique way. He has been elected unanimously.

A staunch nationalist, Mr. Reddy has always been in the forefront of the national struggle. He was the choice for the presidentship once before. But he fell a victim to the split in the Congress party. Another distinguished Andhra was elected in his place.

Mr. Reddy has said he would very much be a president, "who is neither seen or heard but who decides."

But cannot decide. Under the amended constitution, the president of the biggest democracy in the world is expected to just sign where the cabinet puts the dots.

What happened to the acting President Jatti, when he just hesitated to sign the proclamation dismissing the Congress ministries in nine states is only recent history.

Will the Congress (O) leader stand up to the machinations of the Jan Sangh which is slowly building up its strength within the Janata Party? Or will be just satisfied with the change from the "chair of roses with thorns" to the bed of roses in the Rashtrapathi Bhavan ?

TAMIL NADU BUDGET

The first budget of the All India Anna D.M.K. Government presented by the Finance Minister K. Manoharan is a sincere effort to do something to benefit every section of society, especially the weaker section.

No new levy worth the name is proposed in spite of the overall deficit of Rs. 18.79 crores. This, the Finance Minister hopes to cover through great economies in administration and better tax collection.

From rural artisans like cobblers, carpenters and blacksmiths to the NGOs at the Secretariat, from the farmers to the traders, from fishermen to film producers—all are promised something though not much And the benefits promised cover the entire population with some special attention to village people.

The question is, as the HINDU has pointed out, as always, to what extent the government will succeed in its objectives

The Show Goes On

The Government propose to do away with awards. All the way from Bharat Ratna to Padma Shri. We are not very familiar with recipients of these awards, whose number must form a good percentage of the population by now. We do not also know why these awards—"titles" by another name, says Acharya Kripalani, who must tell us why he allows the "Acharya" without batting an eyelid—are given to many among the recipients. The range is from statesmen to liquor markers ; and perhaps spurious drug manufacturers and smugglers keep company with scientists, dons, artists. We are not making any assertion. We are ready to say we may be mistaken—in anticipation of the possibility that some of those may some day occupy some office, high or low, and remember us to our disadvantage.

The way the number of recipients has gone on increasing, there were only two ways to deal with the situation. One was to confer at least Padma Shri on every citizen, male and female, reserving the higher awards for those in the higher income brackets. This would have had the pleasant consequence of tycoons, smugglers and dacoits being all Bharat Ratnas, and of the Harijans who are being roasted alive or are being deprived of land allotted to them flaunting Padma Shri like the soldier shooting away even after he has himself been fatally shot.

Both the Government and the Acharya, on whom we hereby confer the title of Jambavan, must also give some thought to non-state awards or titles or whatever you call them. "Lok Nayak", "Mahatma", "Sher-i-Kashmir," "His Holiness" are samples that come to mind. There are many more, specially in Tamil Nadu where every follower of Annadurai, to whichever Kazhagam he belongs, gives himself a title and publicizes it through periodicals and admirers. Why not enact a law banning titles and awards and providing for heavy terms of imprisonment for those who confer or receive them, openly or secretly ? This applies also to the "honoris causa" business, not to speak of "pandit" which does not necessarily connote learning but may sometimes connote cunning. We hope the above learned discourse will earn us a place in the committee to draft the said legislation, with T. A. D.A. and perks not left in doubt.

x x x

Speaking of mahatmas and others, we are reminded of the Mahatma who was shot dead in early 1948. There has been some controversy over the propriety of the Lok Nayak staying at the Express Tower, a tiny corner of the Goenka empire. George, ever ready to silence critics by a bit of tongue-lashing, has declared there is nothing wrong. Didn't Gandhi stay in Birla House ? He did, sometimes, and used to be criticized for it too. But he also lived in the Bhangi Colony, at Sewagram, in slushy huts in Noakhali. And we don't remember Gandhi having had the kind of medical attention some "common citizens" receive. But in this day and age, as the cliche goes, we shouldn't expect Jayaprakash to take to mud-bath and the like, should we ?

* * *

Narain is a misleading name. We don't refer to the god who goes by that name without causing much confusion. We refer to Raj Narain and Jayaprakash Narayan. One should change his name, preferably the former. When recently we read the headline "Narain against getting blood from the poor", we thought for a moment that J.P. was holding forth against blood-suckers who pay the minimum possible wage and extract the maximum possible work as also profits. But alas no, we were merely reading about the other Narain, the Health Minister, who it appears is "personally opposed" to accepting blood from poor, under-nourished professional donors. He will find other means of livelihood for them, and till then they can live on their own blood. That wouldn't be very long, for either they will get the promised jobs or just pop off.

Jayaprakash wants the Government to provide medical investigation free of cost. They should. If it means a free trip or two to any where in the West, all the better. J.P. merely wants what is available to him (not at Government cost, we are sure) to be available to all. That is the true Janata spirit. In Janata raj even the hallowed Tower should be thrown open to all. Or will there be a price, as in the case of the former Birla House ?

From free treatment to removal of corruption, Jayaprakash has been laying down, not the law but something akin to the Ten Commandments. The Janata Government are not unmindful of their obligation to obey the commandments. Starting with commissions of inquiry, they have risen to the level of a Lokpal Bill that will cover "all the mistakes" made by ministers or members of Parliament in the past five years. The five-year limit is difficult to understand, considering that Janata leaders have been telling us so much about "thirty years of misrule". The Bill should cover all mistakes by all who held office or were legislators at the Centre or in the states at any time during or throughout the last thirty years. P.S. Badal and others have promised to root out corruption and punish everyone concerned. So enactment of a law covering the last thirty years should pose no problem. The law will no doubt cover foreign money, money in foreign banks, and money with and from tycoons, dacoits and others.

* * *

George Fernandes and Brij Lal Verma have exchanged portfolis. George now has industry. Just a little earlier he had declared in Calcutta that "the issues with traders may have to be settled on the roads." Perhaps we may now expect application of this dictum to industry. Mohan Dharia, according to one report, said existing monopoly houses and multinationals would not be disturbed. George's philosophy seems to require that all industries, big and small, be disturbed. He must live up to his stormy past. We wish him success, and will contribute our mite by way of brickbats or lung-power, as required.

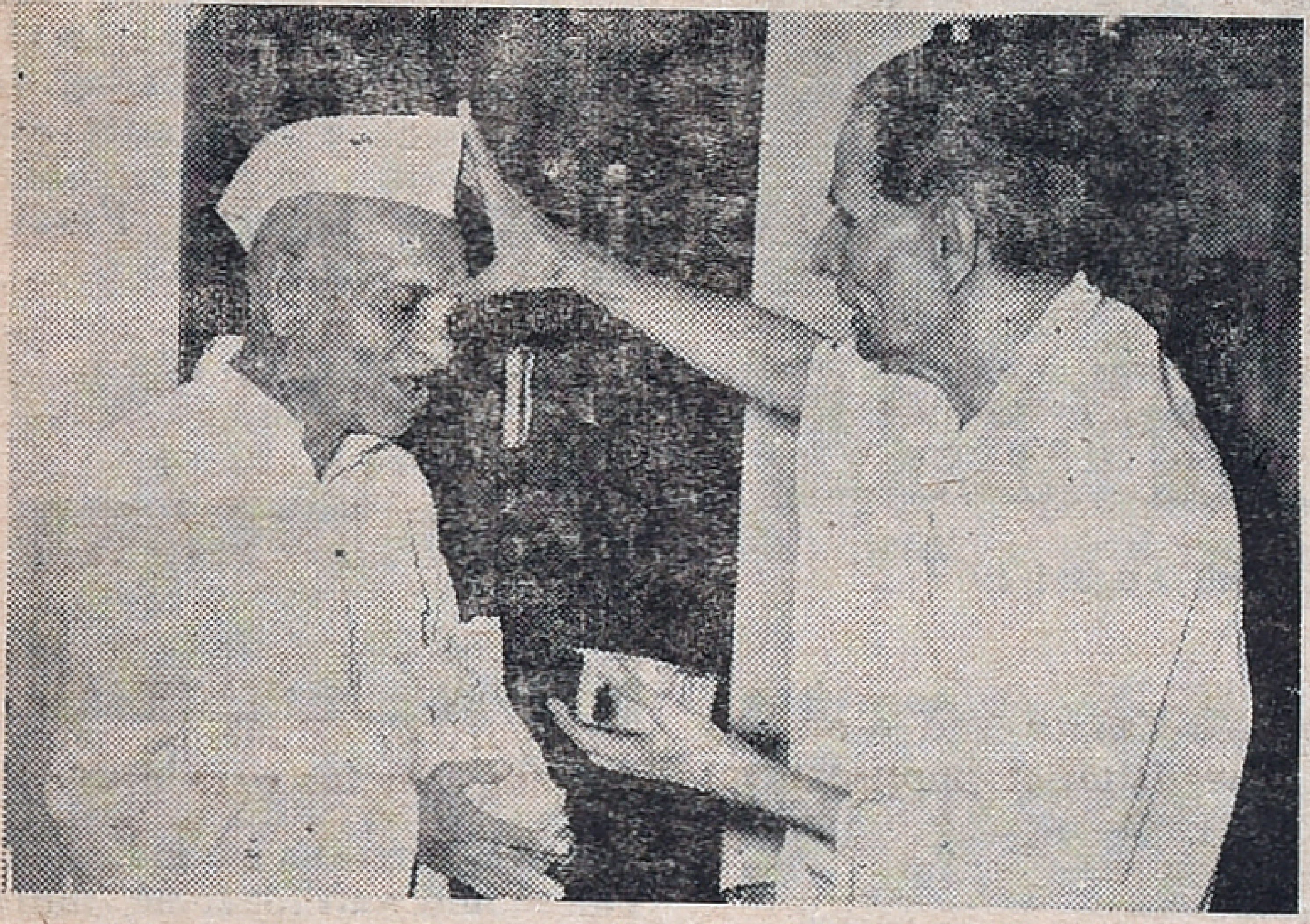
—*Witness in National Herald*

J. P. to Note

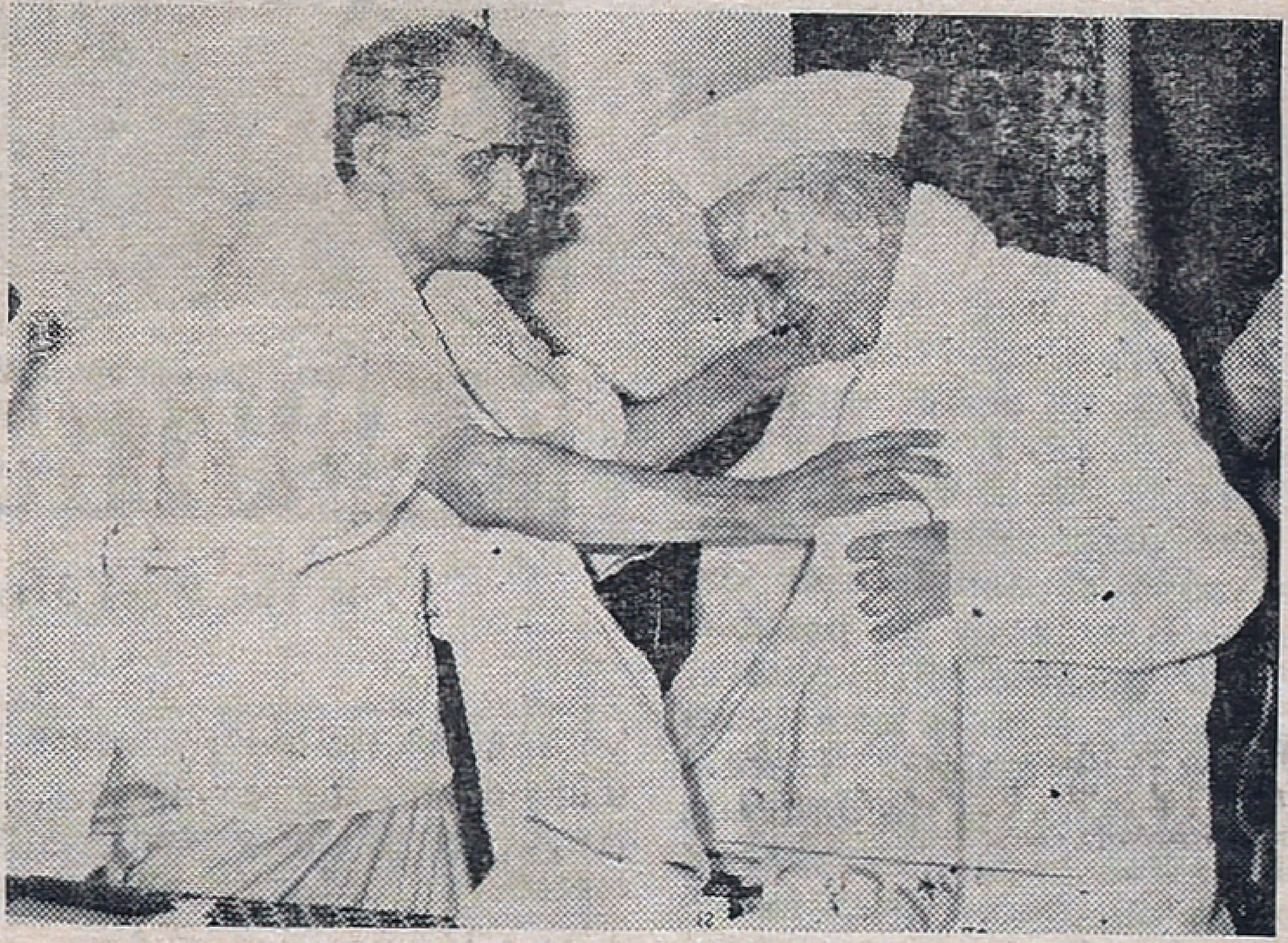
For the kind attention of the Mahatma 77 :

Students of the Madhubani College of Mithila University used unfair means at the examinations and, when the authorities sought to prevent them from doing so, they shouted slogans attacking the government headed by Mr. Karpoori Thakur and asserting that if the Janata Party was justified in winning the elections with the help of "bogus votes" cast in its favour by students and youth, they too were justified in using unfair means at the examinations. "Give us back our bogus votes or allow us to do what we like in the examinations," they kept on chanting.

—*The Hindu.*



H. H. Swami Kesavalahji blessing Sri Prabhudas Patwari, Covernor of Tamil Nadu.



Sri Swamiji presenting a shawl to the governor.

Governor Stresses Guru Bhakthi

"DECADENCE of Guru Bhakthi was largely responsible for indiscipline among the younger generation. Guru Bhakti had lost its significance in the field of education" observed Sri Prabhudas Patwari, Governor of Tamil Nadu, while presiding over the Guru Poornima Celebrations, organised by the Sri Sai Baba Bhaktha Samajam at Shenoynagar, on Thursday, July 28.

The Governor further said that he was much delighted after having the darshan of Sri Sai Baba of Shirdi at the Mandir and meeting H.H. Swami Kesavalahji, the Founder President of the Samajam. He said it was a very excellent place where good programmes for realisation of god were going on. He referred to the spiritual services rendered by Swamiji to the devotees and said that we require the spiritual guidance of Holymen like Swamiji at this juncture. As referred by Swamiji in his message for the occasion, the Governor said that the divine inacarnations Sri Rama and Sri Krishna learnt the Sastras from their Gurus, Vasishta and Sandipani. The message of Swamiji, the Governor observed, like all great men, was that all should be happy and prosperous. He prayed God for happiness and prosperity of the mother land.

(Contd. on page 7)

GURU POORNIMA: H. H. SWAMIJI'S MESSAGE

'WHAT profits one's perfect senses if one is not endowed with true knowledge, says Tiruvalluvar. 'There is nothing in any world superior to true knowledge', declares Vemana.

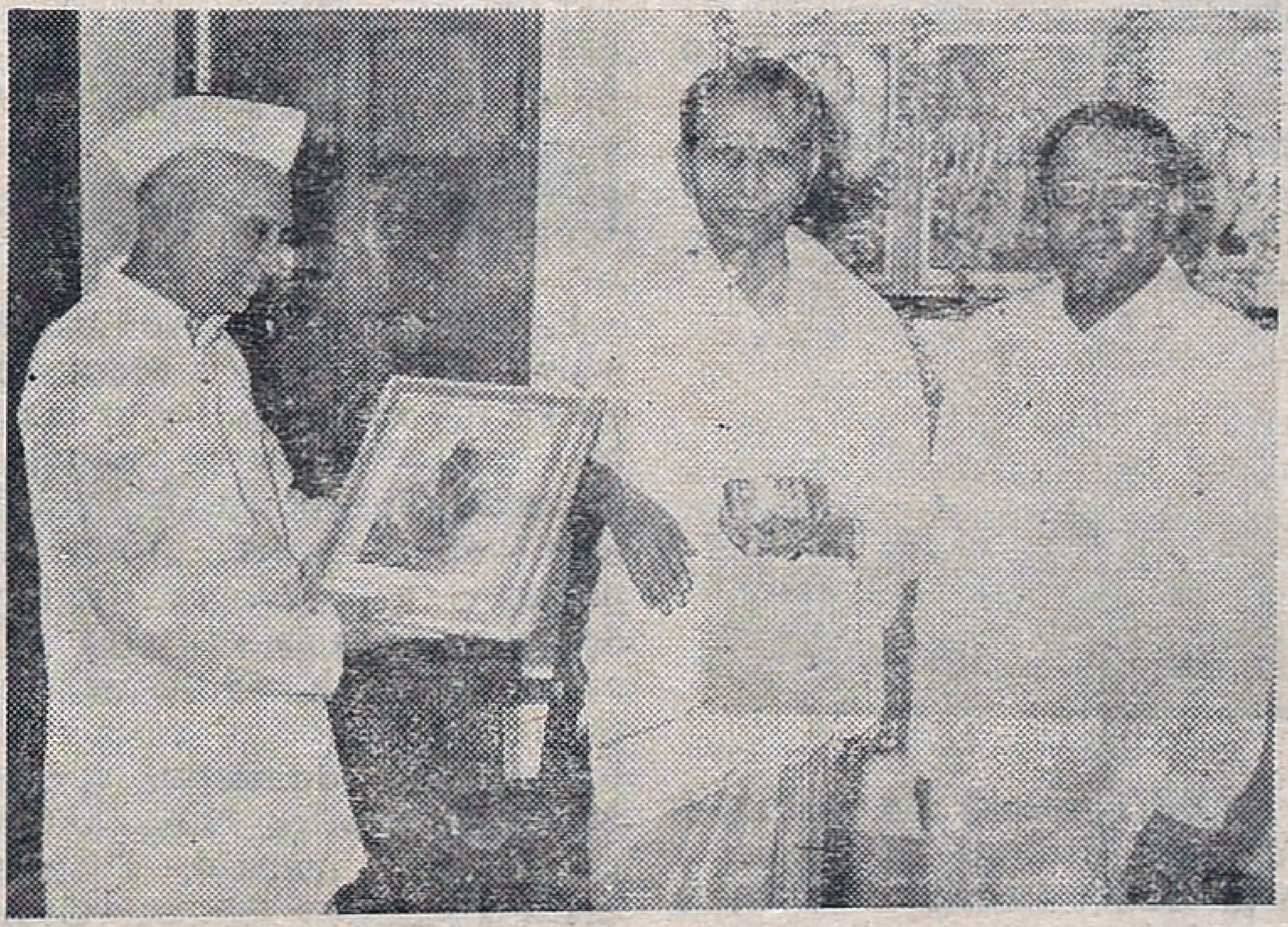
True knowledge, from time immemorial, has been held in high esteem by the lettered and the unlettered. And knowledge is the sole monopoly of man and hence he is regarded par excellent among all the living beings. Man has been ceaselessly endeavouring through all the ages to free himself from the bondages of ignorance and enjoy the fruits of knowledge. Also an unrestrained desire is conspicuously present in him to see light dispelling darkness. But this becomes a reality only through the grace of a guru, the enlightened teacher. The Hindu tradition revers the guru, the bestower of knowledge, as one of the visible Gods on earth, the others being the mother and the father. No wonder, therefore, that Guru Poornima, reverentially dedicated to the Guru, is rightly hailed as a sacred day to us. Guru Poornima is also called Vyasa Poornima. To the sage Vyasa, the embodiment of God, goes the credit of classifying the Sacred Vedas. A live epic, his Mahabharata which has been a source of inspiration to us is regarded as the fifth Veda, Sri Sai Baba of Shirdi belongs to this glorious galaxy of Gurus.

Our tradition and scriptures insist on reposing implicit faith in the Guru It is only such faith, pure and firm, that enables the disciple to receive the Guru's grace. Sri Rama and Sri Krishna, though incarnation of Lord Vishnu, are shining examples of being ideal disciples. We learn that they had learnt the Sastras and other branches of knowledge from their Guru Vasishta and Sandipani respectively. Even Sri Sai Baba of Shirdi sat at his Guru's feet gazing at him for twelve long years. The Guru did not speak to Him but it is only towards the end he received his Guru's grace. This and other incidents clearly prove that the devotion of Sri Sai Baba towards his Guru was unbounded and indescribable. This Mandir which has been dedicated to Sri Sai Baba of Shirdi has already become a centre for the Sai devotees, irrespective of region or Community. Let us thereforet imbibe in ourselves the spiri, of true devotion to our Guru, Sri Sai Baba of Shirdi and merit his grace.

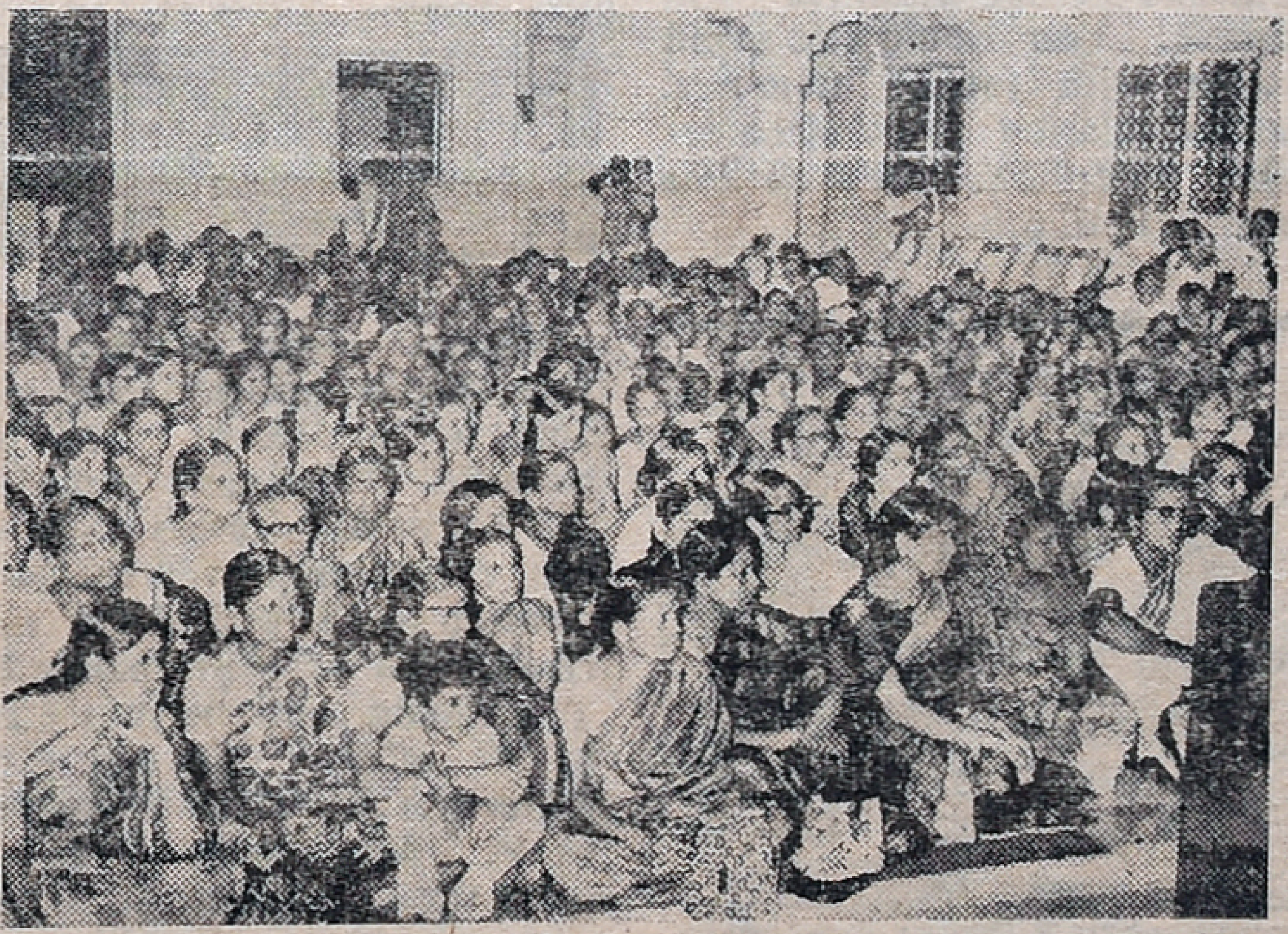
Let us on this sacred Guru Poornima Day gratefully remember the noble and practical teachings of Sri Sai Baba, the ocean of Love and receive His blessings.

Om Shanthi! Om Shanthi !!

Om Shanthi !!!



Governor Patwari admiring a portrait of Sri Sai Baba presented to him. With Swamiji and the Governor is Sri Uttama Reddy, Chairman of the Samajam.



A section of the devotees who assembled at the Sri Shirdi Sai Baba Mandir for the pooja and the meeting.

For The Week 31st July To 6th August 1977

MESHA (ARIES)
Aswini Bharani
Krittika 1/4

FAVOURABLE period continues for some more time. You should try to make best use of this opportunity to improve your prospects. You will be getting a few partnership proposals. You should choose the best and finalise it as early as possible. Financial position will improve. But avoid speculative investments for some more time. There is not much change in the domestic scene. But you can expect cooperation from your family members. Short journeys are indicated. Favourable days: 1st & 2nd.

★

VRISHABA (TAURUS)
Krittika 3/4 Rohini
Mrigashirsha 1/2

MIXED results are indicated. You will be able to solve some of the long pending problems. Major changes are indicated in office. You should be prepared to take up additional responsibilities in the near future. With tact and extra effort, you can utilise this opportunity to your advantage. Property matters should be handled properly to avoid legal complications. Family members will be cooperative. Matters relating to children could be finalised. Favourable days: 3rd & 4th.

★

MITHUNA (GEMINI)
Mrigashirsha 1/2 Arudra
Punarvasu 3/4

MIXED results are indicated. You will be able to finalise a partnership arrangement this week. You will be able to start a new venture with the assistance of the partner. Financial position will be satisfactory. Speculative gains are also indicated. Domestic responsibilities will increase. You should also avoid friction with family members. Matters relating to children require attention. Favourable days; 5th & 6th.

KATAKA (CANCER)
Punarvasu 1/4 Pushya
Ashlesha

FAVOURABLE period to implement your programme. You will be able to get some relief from pressure of work. You should try to re-organise your business set up to get better results. You should also try to diversify your business activity to get new source of income. Property matters could be finalised favourably. You can expect cooperation from your family members. Matters relating to children requires attention. You may have to undertake a journey shortly. Health will be well maintained. Favourable days: 1st & 2nd.

★

SIMHA (LEO)
Maka Purva Palguni
Uttara Palguni 1/4

FAVOURABLE period begins which will last for a couple of weeks. You should try to make best use of this opportunity, to improve your prospects. Business will improve. Financial position will be satisfactory. Speculative gains are also indicated. You should be prepared to take up additional responsibility in the domestic sphere. Matters relating to children could be finalised. Property matters require attention. Change of place is indicated. You may have to undertake a journey shortly. Favourable days: 2nd & 3rd.

★

KANYA (VIRGO)
Uttara Palguni 3/4 Hastha
Chitra 1/2

MIXED results are indicated. You should wait for some more time to implement your programme. Financial position will not be satisfactory. But you can expect improvement in the position by the end of the week. Health will be well maintained. You should continue your efforts in the office. You can expect better results after a couple of weeks. Avoid journeys for some more time. Also avoid friction with associates. Family problems should be handled properly to avoid complications later. Favourable days: 4th & 5th.

THULA (LIBRA)
Chitra 1/2 Swathi
Visakha 3/4

MIXED results are indicated. You will be able to solve some of the long pending problems. But you should wait for some more time to get complete relief. Financial position will be satisfactory. But avoid speculative investments for some more time. You may have to undertake a journey shortly. Change of place is indicated for some. Matters relating to children could be finalised favourably. You can expect cooperation from your family members. Health requires attention. Favourable days: 3rd & 4th.

★

VRISCHIKA (SCORPIO)
Vishakha 1/4 Anuradha
Jyeshtha

FAVOURABLE period to impliment your programme. You will be able to finalise partnership arrangements this week. But you should consult your seniors before taking a decision. Financial position will be satisfactory. Speculative gains are also indicated. Family responsibilities will increase. But you can expect cooperation from your family members. Matters relating to children could be finalised favourably. Health will be well maintained. Short journeys are indicated. Property matters should be handled properly to avoid legal complications. Favourable days: 4th & 5th.

★

DHANUS (SAGITTARIUS)
Mula Purva Ashadha
Uttara Ashadha 1/4

FAVOURABLE period continues for some more time. You should try to make best use of this opportunity to improve your position. You should try to revive old business contacts. You can expect one or two new partnership proposals from them. You can also expect improvement in the financial position. But avoid speculative investments for some more time. Family responsibility will increase. Matters relating to children require more attention. Health will improve. Short journeys are indicated. Favourable days: 2nd & 3rd.

★

MAKARA (CAPRICORNUS)
Uttara Ashadha 3/4
Shravana-Dhanistha 1/2

MIXED results are indicated. You should wait for some more time to implement your plans. Financial position will be satisfactory. Speculative gains are also indicated. You will be able to solve some of the long pending problems. But it will take some more time to get complete relief. Property matters should be handled properly to avoid legal complications. Family members will be cooperative. Matters relating to children could be finalised favourably. Health requires attention. Favourable days: 2nd & 3rd.

★

KUMBHA (AQUARIUS)
Dhanishta 1/2 Sathabhishag
Purva Badrapada 3/4

MIXED results are indicated. You will be able to solve some of the long pending problems. But you cannot expect complete relief from the pressure. You may have to take up additional responsibility in the domestic sphere. But you can expect cooperation from your family members. Matters relating to children could be finalised favourably. Financial position will improve. But avoid speculative investments for some more time. You may have to undertake a journey shortly. Favourable days: 5th & 6th.

★

MEENA (PISCES)
Purva Badrapada 1/4
Uttara Badrapada Revati

FAVOURABLE period to implement your plans. You can expect encouragement from your superiors. Promotional possibilities are bright. But avoid friction with associates. Property matters should be handled properly to avoid complications later. Matters relating to children could be finalised favourably. You can expect cooperation from your family members. Health will be well maintained. You should be cautious in dealing with strangers. Favourable days: 3rd & 4th.

'Thenali Raman' Of Tadjikistan

LIKE the famous stories of Thenali Raman of South India, the stories of MUSHFIKI are very popular among the people of Tadjikistan. Mushfiki is a Tadjik poet who lived in XVI century. His stories are famous for its pungent satire on the rulers of his time and in his works he defended the oppressed common people.

WHO IS STRONGER ?

Once the Emir of Bukhara asked Mushfiki: 'Whom do you think, is stronger, Afgan Padshah or I ?"

Mushfiki answered : 'If you ask, who can lift more weight, then my donkey is stronger than both of you. You can't lift half of the load which it carries. If you talk about the resistance to enemies, then the farmer in the field is stronger than both of you. Because he manages to survive even though you deprive him of food often, but if he doesn't give you food, you and Afgan Padshah will die of hunger.

* * *

INTERPRETATION OF EMIR'S DREAM

Once Emir saw in his dream that all his teeth had fallen He called for an interpreter of dreams.

'I can't hide the truth said'. the man. 'Your children and relatives will die before you'.

Emir ordered to punish the man for telling such a gloomy forecast. After sometime he met Mushfiki.

'Can't you tell the real meaning of my strange dream'? asked Emir.

'Very good dream', answered Mushfiki. 'You are going to live in this world longer than your children and relatives'.

Pleased with this, Emir honoured Mushfiki with good presents.

* * *

HIS SON

The young girl whom Mushfiki married gave birth to a son on the fifth day after their marriage.

Mushfiki went to the market and bought some papers, pen and brought them to his wife.

His wife was surprised and asked.

'For whom have you bought all these things ?'

'For my son'.

'Are you joking ? Why papers and pen for a child who is born just now ?'.

For this Mushfiki answered : 'I think, if a child can be born after five days after marriage, then he can go to school three days after birth'.

* * *

YOU ARE ALSO RIGHT

Mushfiki was appointed as a city judge and he was hearing the cases in his house. Once a person complained about his neighbour.

'He was beating my son without any reason, so I beat his son. Am I right ?"

'Right'.

After he left his neighbour came. 'If he had not insulted me I could not have beaten his son. Am I right ?'.

'You are right'.

His wife listened to his judgement and asked in surprise :

'What a judge you are. You should point out who is really right and who is wrong'.

'Yes, you are also right.'

* * *

LOAD OF TWO DONKEYS

Once when going out for hunting Emir and his minister took with them Mushfiki. A servant was walking behind them. It was a very hot day. Taking off their golden dresses, Emir and his minister threw them on the shoulders of the servant.

'See Mushfiki', said Emir. 'What a strong hardworking servant I have got. What he carries on his shoulders is a full weight of a donkey'.

'Your greatness, it is even more', answered Mushfiki. 'This is a load of two donkeys'.

* * *

THE SUPREME JUDGE

Once a rich man was celebrating his marriage in his house. He sent Mushfiki to invite the Supreme Judge.

Mushfiki entered the house unceremoniously. The Judge got wild and shouted at him : 'Can't he find a decent man to invite me than a donkey like you?'.

Mushfiki answered : 'He sent his own people to invite all the people but to invite you he sent me'.

* * *

MUSHFIKI AND DOCTOR

Once some friends decided to go to a doctor to consult for some indisposition. Mushfiki told them about his walk with this doctor near the burial ground.

'When we approached the burial ground the doctor closed his face with the robe. I asked him why he did this. He answered, that 'I am ashamed of those buried in this ground. Many of them took my medicine'.

x x x

MUSHFIKI AND THE THIEF

Once at a night a thief entered into Mushfiki s house. He was searching for a long time, but could not get anything. Without losing hope he searched all the corners and places.

Mushfiki was not sleeping and was watching. Finally he could not control himself and said, 'My Friend, why are you troubling yourself, I myself can't find anything in the bright day light and what are you going to find in the dark night ?'.

MUSHFIKI AND HIS WIFE

Mushfiki decided to marry, According to the custom of that time his mother and relatives selected a woman whom he had not seen before. This woman was very ugly. After marriage the wife aked Mushfiki, 'You have got a lot of male relatives. Tell me before whom I need not cover my face : and before whom I will have to cover my face'.

Mushfiki answered, 'Please cover your face only before me, before all others you need not cover your face'.

THE PLUNGE

LEO TOLSTOY

The ship had made a round-the-world trip and was returning home. The weather was calm and everybody was up on deck, A monkey was prancing about among the passengers amusing them. It squirmed, jumped, made funny faces and aped the people, and one could see that it knew that people were were amused, and because of that it pranced all the more.

The monkey hopped up to the 12-year-old son of the ship's captain, snatched his cap off his head, put it on, quickly shinnying up the mast. Everybody was laughing, but the boy, now capless, didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

The monkey sat on the first yard-arm of the mast, took off the cap and started to tear it with its teeth and claws. It was as if it were mocking the boy, pointing at him and making faces The boy shook his fist at the monkey and shouted at it, but the monkey started to tear the cap in an even greater rage. The sailors started laughing even louder, and the boy went red in the face, took off his jacket and climbed quickly up the mast in pursuit of the monkey. He very quickly shinnied up a rope to the first yard-arm. But the monkey was even quicker and more agile and just as he was about to grab the cap it climbed even higher.

"You won't get away from me," cried the boy, he too started climbing.

The monkey again led him on and then climbed higher again, but the boy was now furious and he went on up after it. Thus both the monkey and the boy quickly reached the top of the mast. Once there, the monkey, stretched out to its full length and, gripping a rope in her hind hand*, hung the cap on the very end of the topmost yard-arm and regaining the top of the mast, squirmed and bared its teeth, pleased with itself. The distance from the mast to the tip of the yard-arm on which the cap now hung was about two arshins** so that it was impossible to reach it, except by letting go of both the mast and the rope.

But the boy was so worked up that he let go of the mast and stepped out on to the yard-arm.

Everybody on deck has been laughing at the antics of the monkey and the captain's son. But when they saw that he had let go of the rope and stepped out on to the yard-arm, his arms outstretched to balance himself, they froze with fear.

Once slip and he would be dashed to smithereens against the deck. But even if he didn't slip and could reach the end of the yard-arm it would still be difficult for him to turn about and walk back to the mast.

Everyone watched in silence waiting to see what would happen.

Suddenly one of the onlookers cried out with fear, bringing the boy to his senses. He look down and started to sway.

At that moment the ship's captain came out on deck. He was carrying a gun to shoot some gulls. Seeing his son on the mast he immediately took aim and shouted :

"In to the water. Jump into the water at once ! Jump or I'll shoot you !"

The boy was swaying but did not understand what he had to do.

"Jump or I'll shoot ! One, two..."

And as the father shouted "three" the boy plunged headlong into the waterr.

x x x

* Monkeys can grasp things with their hind extremities also, therefore they are often called quadrumanous (four-handed).

** Arshin—an old Russian unit of length equal to 0.71 metre (28 inches).

Muscovite's Diary

Ivan Ivanov

INDIAN BOOKS IN USSR

An exhibition of books by foreign authors published in the USSR from 1917 to 1977 has been opeded in Moscow to mark the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution which has made the wealth of intellectual culture available to the masses. Soviet publishing houses bring out more than 1,500 books by foreign authors annually, their total print nearing 70 million copies.

The Indian section of the exhibition opens with Rabindranath Tagore's book "The Gardener", which came out in 1917. Sixty years have elapse between the time when the thin booklet printed on newsprint came out and the publication of the splendid edition of the novel "Gora" issued in the Library of World Literature series. Those sixty years have seen 160 publication of Tagore's works put out in almost 6 million copies and in 23 languages.

The works of Mulk Raj Anand and Kishan Chander which came out in an edition of 1 5 million and 2 million copies, respectively, can be found in the puplic and private libraries today. The works of Kalidasa have seen 6 editions and the "Mahabharata" has seen 16 editions. More than 30 million books by Indian writers translated into 34 languages of the people of the USSR—this is the result of the work done by Soviet Publishing Houses in the field of Indian literature.

Nowhere else outside of India does her literature come out in such editions and no other country in the world can be compared with the SovietUnion in the scope of translated literature, in general.

During the years of Soviet power the reader got acquainted with books by writers of 136 countries, many of which were published in the USSR in much larger editions than in the countries where they first came out.

"The average edition of books by foreign writers published in the USSR in our days is 68,000 copies", said S. Stukalin, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Publishing, Printing and Book Distribution, at a press conference held in connection with the inauguration of the edition. He noted that in keeping with the spirit of the accords reached in Helsinki, the Soviet Union in taking steps to expand its book publishing activity. Last year alone the edition of works translated from foreign languages grew by a quarter and numbers 97 million copies.

In the USSR books by more than 6,000 foreign authors were published in 1975-76 alone. It is important to note, said Stukalin, that works by modern authors account for a considerable share of these books.

WORLD TEACHERS' MEET

The 11th Statutory conference of the world Federation of Teacher' Union (FISE) was recently held in Moscow. The topic of the conference was: "School and Teachers in the present-day world". Representatives of more than hundred organisations, including a large delegation of Indian teachers, took part in this conference.

What strikes one's eyes when he visits different Soviet children's establishments—nurseries and schools, according to Indian participants, is that the children are not only given the best formal education but also taught to participate in social life. In Kindergartens they are prepared for school. At school they are given opportunity of choosing their future occupation. Along with proper planning of education the Soviet Union makes it possible for a person to develop his individuality.

The combination of theory with practice is a valuable feature of the Soviet education. India is also going to introduce work experience in education. Soviet experience, according to the Indian participants, in this field would be of great use.

Besides knowledge, children must have material care and affection. The Soviet system of education is tackling this problem well.

x x x

GRADUATES—BLIND AND DEAF

Four students, Natalia Korneyeva, Yury Lerner, Sergei Sirotkin and Alexander Suvorov, all totally blind and deaf, have graduated with honours from Moscow University. They have been invited to work at the Institute of Psychology.

A lot of work has been done with deaf and dumb students, but I don't know of such a success, hitherto, with the blind and deaf. These four, though deaf, speak with great clarity and precision, though their accent is a little strange.

Natalia Korneyeva's graduation paper, the least controversial, was entitled The Psychology of Morality. Suvorov's Two Approaches to imagination, was assessed as "daring"; taking due, but not uncritical regard of all authorities. Sirotkin's, on the development of gesture into speech, was backed with much experimental work. And Lerner's was entitled Procedures Enabling Deaf and Blind People to Master Modelling.

All four have their hobbies, and Lerner's, as you might guess, is sculptre. He has completed a bust of his favourite tutor, which took him two years. Sirotkin, who is keen on radioengineering, can read raised circuits with ease.

Strange, But True

The Greatest Danger

Emnid, the West German institute of public opinion, recently asked people in the Federal Republic of Germany what accident they thought they might most likely be involved in. The replies revealed that 72 per cent were afraid they might be victims of road accidents 18 per cent of accidents at home and 13 per cent of accident of work, S x per cent said they especially feared earthquakes although there have long been no earthquakes of any destructive force in the Federal Republic. This adds up to more than 100 per cent because people were told they could name not only the most likely accidents but also the ones they thought possible.

Rhodesian Statistics

Official figures published in Salisbury show that more than 3,000 whites left Rhodesia in March and April of this year and only 1,044 (probably including the mercenaries recruited by Ian Smith's agents in Western Europe and America) settled down there. Reuter reports that in the first four months of this year Rhodesia 'lost" more than 3,500 whites, or about three times as many as in the corresponding period in 1976. The number of tourists is decreasing sharply too.

Happy End

MacBride, the West German Unsere Zeit writes, sent his relatives the following telegram: "Uncle John passed away stop funeral service day after tomorrow." The clerk politely told him he could add four more words for the same money. MacBride did: "Rangers beat Celtic 2-1".

Absurd And Unnecessary

For five years a British poultry research centre has been studying the possibility of making eggs unbreakable and has been unable to think up anything. The Secretary of State for Education and Science, told Parliament that the investigations have cost all of £ 35,000. And an M. P. added that in the twenty years of its existence this "absurd and unnecessary" body has used up £8 million of tax-payers' money.

Advice

Sixty-three thousand teachers were beaten up by their pupils in the United States in the 1975/76 school year, psychiatrist Alfred M. Bloch told a Toronto Congress recently. Suggesting a way out, he advised teachers to move from big cities to small quiet towns for a while.

12 : 1

Official Washington constantly tells Latin Americans that it regards them as equals. A graphic illustration of this "equality" was recently given by the head of the Panamanian delegation to the negotiations with the United States on the future of the Panama Canal. The 3,600 Americans employed in the Canal Zone, he said, were re eiving 80 per cent of the total payroll, while the 10,500 Panamanians were getting only 20 per cent. The proportion is 12 : 1.

For VIPs

Leading businesmen in West Germany are these days receiving letters with a numbered VIP Card attached, advising them to purchase a "superlative" American gadget to discover bugging devices. The advertisement affirms that this gadget is indispensable. "As far as we know", it says, "you belong to the target group of specific interest". For whom? An idle question, for businessmen know very well how widespread economic and other espionage is in the world of "free enterprise".

Dear Children

From birth to graduation from university, an American child costs its parents between $44,000 and $64,000, such is the conclusion arrived at by Prof. Thomas Espenshade of Florida Universi y, He has calculated that even well-to-do parents have to spend almost a third of their annual budget on the first child.

From page 3

Governor Stresses . . .

Earlier the celebrations commenced with vedic recitals.

Sri M. Uttama Reddi, Chairman of the Samajam, while welcoming all explained the various activities of the Samajam. He said that the magnificient shrine in which the celebrations took place was evidence of the immense faith which the Founder-President H. H Swami Kesavalahji had in Sri Sai Baba of Shirdi. He recalled the prediction of Swamiji when Sri Neelam Sanjeeva Reddi visited the shrine in 1965 that he would occupy the highest position in the country. He said that the Samajam was grateful to the Governor for unhesitatingly accepted the invitation to preside over the function.

H.H. Swami Kesavaiahji addressing the gathering emphasised the significance of leading a righteous and disciplined life. He said that one should be faithful to his Guru, to his parents and to his work. If one did not like the Guru, he should not visit the temple even. God could be seen only through his Guru. He also said that sincere and honest work alone would merit suitable reward. According to him, Gandhiji's weapon was the Bhagawat Gita. The father of the nation had abundant faith in the Gita in the existence of the almighty. He urged the devotees that they should remember the simple yet noble teachings of Sri Sai Baba on occasions like this and said that everyone think of Sai Baba atleast seven times a day.

Dr. Challa Radhakrishna Sarma, proposing a vote of thanks, said that Sai Baba Bhaktha Samajam had become an International centre for Sai Cult under the able guidance of the Founder-President of the Samajam. He said that Swamiji was a Nishkamayogi who has been doing selfless service to the humanity for the past three decades and odd.

Earlier, messages wishing the sacred function success received from Sri Neelam Sanjeeva Reddi, president of India, Sri B. D. Jatti, Vice-president of India, Dr. M. Chenna Reddy, Governor of U. P. Sri K. N. Mudaliar, Minister for Law, Government of Tamil Nadu and others were read by the Secretary.

Later Swamiji distributed Udhi and consecrated coins to over 5000 devotees who came from all parts of the city and far off places till late in the night.

50-year-old rail link

The train in this artist's impression really does seem to be braving the waves, doesn't it? Travelling along the seven-mile railway embankment linking the North Sea holiday isle of Sylt with the mainland of Schleswig-Holstein may be marginally less exciting but the construction of the causeway fifty years ago was certainly a major feat of technology.

The Hindenburgdamm, as it was named, was first proposed in the mid-nineteenth century but not completed until 1927, having taken four years to build. Contemporary newspaper reports hailed the technological achievement but no one could have anticipated that this link with the island railhead in Westerland would one day be a money-spinner for Deutsche Bundesbahn, the German Federal Railways. Over the past half century it has transported fifty million passengers and nearly five million motor vehicles.

Advertising News

Ray Valine of Sacramento (U.S.A) has invented an original way of making a living. He shaves his head, has all sorts of advertisements written on it and walks about the town.

Jubilee Precautions

The British police took special precautions in preparation for Queen Elizabeth's Silver Jubilee. Scotland Yard set up anti-pick-pocket squads, anticipating the arrival also of pickpocket gangs from other countries of Europe, South America and even Australia. A number of recommendations were drawn up for tourists. One of them advised people not to fight back. "It is better to lose the cash than suffer serious injury," it said.

Apartheid On The Roads

The racist authorities of Oudtshorn, a South African town near the famous Cango caves, recently ordered the parking space outside these caves to be divided in two and to put up a "Non-White Parking Area" sign at one of them and a "White Parking Area" at the other. "All we are doing is to make facilities at the caves conform with the policy of the government", said town clerk Mike Schultz. True, policemen on duty there wonder what to do if a white comes in a car driven by an African.

Tidying Up

A special panel of lawyers, high-ranking police officers and doctors have drawn up a report for the Israe'i Minister of justice on the growing scope of prostitution in the country. Tel Aviv alone has about 8000 streetwalkers. The panel, however, offers no recommendations on how to put an end to this social evil. Instead, it proposes to provide prostitutes with special hotels and flats, institute medical control over them, and allow them to advertise.

The Reason

Former CIA man Philip Agee, who has published a series of articles exposing the Agency, was deported from Britain on June 3, allegedly for activities "harmful to the security of the United Kingdom". What that activity was and what harm it had caused was not explained. "It's obvious that what's bad for the CIA is bad for the U.K.," quipped one wit.

Declassification ?

Until June 1973, writes the Washington Post, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency carefully concealed its exact whereabouts. A new stage of the declassification operation has now been announced. Beginning this July, the CIA will allow tourists into its buildings. And what about the people working there ?. That's where quite a few problems arise, according to a CIA spokesman. Many of the agents do not care to be photographed or even seen. It looks as though the tourists will be admitted only on Sundays.

"Yes" And "No"

Were I in my teens again,
Seventeen or so,
My most ready answer then
would, I'm sure, be : no.

Now, if I were twenty-two
I can safely guess
That my quickest answer would
Be most surely : yes.

They're inadequate those two
Little "yes" and "no",
After what I have lived through
Since that long ago.

All my feelings to express
They would be too weak.
So don't ask me, do not press,
If I do not speak.

—MARGARITA ALIGHER

Who Speaks Hindi?

In Maharashtra we speak Marathi, in Bengal Bengali, in Punjab Punjabi, in Kashmir Kashmiri, in Bihar "Bihari", in Orissa Oriya, in Gujarat Gujarati, in the region of Assam Assamese, and the Nagas have their own language, and the adivasis and tribals in M. P. have their own dialects, the Goans speak Konkini, and in the South we have Telugu, Tamil, Kannada and Malayalam, Coorg has its own language, the Saraswats in Mangalore and in the West Coast speak Konkini. Who speaks Hindi ? Many in the North speak Urudu. How can the Centre force down the throat of all these non-Hindi speaking people Hindi, which is a foreign language to them ? Hindi, authorities prove, is more over, not an Indian language. Sanskrit has also a place in India and not Hindi. Englishmen tried for three hundred years to make Indians learn English, and started teaching the same from the lowest standard in the schools. Where are we now as far as Hindi is concerned ? It will take three hundred years before we speak Hindi, or write or read Hindi, as much as we do English to-day. Who speaks Hindi ? Nobody !

Enforcement of Hindi, with fanatic zeal, has created equally fanatic propaganda against Hindi all over India.

—Dr. I. E. DAVID of Nagpur in the Hindu.

MY ONLY ONE !

In a stationery store a young sailor seemed unable to find just the right kind of Valentine greeting card.

"May be I can help you." suggested the saleslady.

"I'm looking for an expensive-looking card inscribed 'To My Only one'," was the reply. The girl went to the back room and smilingly returned with the desired specimen. "Swell," said the sailor. "Gimme half a dozen !"

From page 1

head per day. To give an idea how disparate the nutritional situation of whole sizeable population groups can be, diets below 1,400 calories per day have been observed even under "normal", i.e. non-famine conditions.

To shed more light on the world food and nutrition situation, FAO is at present preparing a publication showing detailed food balance sheets for some 160 countries which will be available later in 1977.

Speaker Felicitated

Sri Munu Adhi, Speaker, Sri Gayathri Swami and Sri T. Ekambaram, President of Adiyar Thirukoota Iraipani Mandram.

Adiyar Thirukkootta Iraipani Mandram, Tambaram, at a simple function on Sunday, July 24, felicitated Mr. Munu Adhi on his election as the Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Ekambarum, President of the Iraipani Mandram, wellcoming the chief guest recalled his close association with him for the past three decades and said that Mr. Munu Adhi was a dedicated worker and served the people of the locality in various capacities since he entered politics. No job was small or big for him when it concerned the welfare of the people. He wished him well in his new position.

Mr. Munu Adhi in his reply expressed his sincere gratitude to "his leader" Mr. Ekabaram, bu for whose encouragement and support he would not have found his way up in the political field. He assured the peoplu that it would be his earnest endeavour to serve them in his new position without fear or favour and free from political inhibitions. (Mr. Munu Adhi was elected to the Legislative Assembly from Tambaram Const tuency). He thanked the members of the Mandram for the reception accorded to him.

Shr Gayathri Swamigal, who was present at the function, invoked the blessings of Sri. Gayathri Devi and offered his good wishes to Mr. Munu Adhi.

Mr. Mohanarangam M.P. was among those present on the occasion.

Canara Bank Savings drive

Thanks to the savings drive initiated by the Canara Bank, the people living in the slum area of Bagalur in Bangalore city were able to save and lead a happy life. Just two years back this area was one of the most backward in the city and the people were leading a miserable life spending what all they earned.

Women folk and children of this area are now engaging themselves in making paper covers and other handiwork and earn on an average six rupees a day. They save a portion of the amount earned daily through the Canara Bank and thus have improved their economic position.

A Modern Carpentry Workshop

Many of us just step into any one of the multitudes of furniture shops and buy some attractive and decorative furniture, normally at the price quoted by the shop. Some times it proves to be of inferior quality.

The Sriperumpudur Panchayat Union is now running a Carpentry Unit wherein are manufactured a number of furniture items of high quality. The unit provides employment to local youth. Employing about twenty persons it turns out on an average furniture worth rupees four lakhs annually.

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